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Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

For Immediate Release – August 26, 2013 Deb Schweizer (559) 565-3703

Fire Update

The Windy Peak Fire in Kings Canyon National Park has grown to an estimated 400 acres at is 20% contained. This lightning-caused fire is north of the Middle Fork of the Kings River near Simpson Meadow. Visit http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3705/# for more information.

Fire crews are working to hold this fire north of the Kings River and are also using an avalanche chute to the west as a fireline. There are currently no threats to life or property.

The Chagoopa Fire, near the Chagoopa Plateau in Sequoia National Park, is estimated to be 20 acres. Firefighters are working to hold the fire's growth along the Kern River.

The High Sierra Trail is currently closed between Sky Parlor Meadow and Upper Funston Meadow due to fire activity.

Firefighters are suppressing fires because of fire danger, drought conditions, and the need for crews on fires elsewhere. However, the response strategy is limited by the number of firefighters in the parks. There is significant demand for firefighting resources throughout the state and nation.

The Fish Fire, located on the Sequoia National Forest south of the parks, has grown to approximately 1,450 acres. Smoke from this fire is drifting into Sequoia National Park, especially along the Kern River drainage. Visit http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3701/ for more information about this fire.

The Hotel Creek Fire has been contained at 30 acres.

The Hockett Fire has been contained at 41 acres and the trail leading from the Hockett Meadow Ranger Station to Evelyn Lake and Cahoon Rock has re-opened.

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